

Southeast Corridor LRT Transportation Expansion Project

Denver, Colorado

(November 2002)

Description

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) are constructing the Southeast Corridor project (known locally as T-REX), a 19.12-mile double track Light Rail Transit (LRT) system extending from the existing LRT station at I-25 and Broadway in Denver along I-25 to Lincoln Avenue and I-25 in Douglas County, with an LRT spur line along I-225 to Parker Road in Arapahoe County. The project includes 13 new stations, 34 light rail vehicles, 12 park-and-ride lots, a maintenance facility and system upgrades. The double track system will operate in an exclusive, grade-separated right-of-way and connect with the existing 5.3-mile Central Corridor LRT in downtown Denver at the existing Broadway station. At I-25 and Broadway, the Southeast Corridor LRT will also connect with RTD's 8.7-mile Southwest Corridor LRT. Ridership is estimated at 38,100 average weekday boardings in 2020.

The total project cost under the Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) for this project is \$879.27 million. The Section 5309 New Starts funding share for this project is \$525 million.

Status

CDOT, in cooperation with the Denver Regional Council of Governments and the RTD, completed a Major Investment Study on the Southeast Corridor in July 1997. In February 1998, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved the project into Preliminary Engineering. The FTA and the Federal Highway Administration issued a Final Environmental Impact Statement for the project in December 1999 and a Record of Decision in March 2000. In May 2000, FTA approved the project into Final Design. RTD and FTA entered into an FFGA on November 17, 2000 with a revenue operations date scheduled for June 30, 2008. RTD is constructing T-REX through a design-build contract that was awarded in June 2001. Construction started in September 2001 and is currently 23 percent complete. The vehicle contract was awarded in July 2002.

TEA-21 Section 3030(a)(23) authorized the Denver Southeast LRT for Final Design and construction. Through FY 2002, Congress has appropriated \$60.86 million in Section 5309 New Starts funds to the project.

Reported in Year of Expenditure Dollars		
<u>Source of Funds</u>	<u>Total Funding (million)</u>	<u>Appropriations to Date</u>
Federal: Section 5309 New Starts FFGA Commitment	\$525.00	\$60.86 million appropriated through FY 2002
Local: Sales Tax Revenue-Based Bond Proceeds	\$354.27	
TOTAL	\$879.27	

NOTE: Total may not add due to rounding.

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